

Size: 13,680 acres
Mission: Serve as administrative post to various DoD tenants
HRS Score: 52.0; placed on NPL in July 1998
IAG Status: None
Contaminants: Heavy metals, petroleum hydrocarbons, VOCs, and UXO
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: \$59.9 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$8.0 million (FY2004)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites: FY2000
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for Non-BRAC Sites: FY2001



Fort Meade, Maryland

Restoration Background

In November 1980, Fort Meade began investigating its sanitary landfill. In 1996, the Army officially closed the landfill; the remaining cells were capped or are in the process of being capped.

In December 1988, the BRAC Commission recommended closing the Fort Meade range and training areas, including the airfield, to realign Fort Meade from an active Army post to an administrative center. The National Security Agency is now the primary tenant. In July 1995, the commission recommended additional realignment, reducing Kimbrough Army Community Hospital to a clinic and eliminating in-patient services. The Army has transferred 8,100 acres to the Department of the Interior; the remaining 366 acres hold Tipton Army Airfield.

Investigations beginning in FY88 identified several areas of concern at the installation, including landfills, petroleum and hazardous waste storage areas, aboveground and underground storage tanks, asbestos-containing material in structures, and unexploded ordnance (UXO).

In FY90, the installation removed contaminated soil and determined the extent of groundwater contamination at the former post laundry facility. In FY91, Fort Meade investigated the troop boiler plant because of a leaking aboveground fuel oil tank. Subsequently, the installation removed the tank and established a pump-and-treat system. The Army shut down the system in 1997 because it collected an insufficient amount of product. The site is monitored periodically.

In December 1991, groundwater contamination resulting from a leaching acid neutralization pit at a former battery shop was discovered. The installation removed the building and pit and has monitored groundwater since the removals. Cleanup of a former storage and salvage yard led to the discovery of buried drums in 1994.

Approximately 120 drums were removed and found to contain petroleum products. Additional investigation is under way.

The installation conducted UXO surveys in FY94 and FY95. A risk assessment for UXO also was completed. The Army conducted Remedial Design and Remedial Action (RA) activities concurrently with investigations at six sites. The installation formed a BRAC cleanup team (BCT) in FY94 and a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) in FY95.

In FY96, a Preliminary Assessment of a historically active warehouse area led to the discovery of groundwater contaminated by fuel oil and substances from former spill areas. The Army transferred the 100-acre site to the Architect of the Capitol. Fort Meade also began an installation-wide Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) and continued Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) activities at eight sites. It also began preparing a NEPA document to address BRAC 95 realignment actions.

In FY97, the installation removed and disposed of the pit and soil from the fire training area and completed a UXO project at Tipton Airfield. It also completed the Environmental Baseline Survey, the finding of suitability to lease, the report of availability for BRAC properties, and cleanup at the medical waste site. EPA proposed placing Fort Meade on the National Priorities List (NPL) in April 1997. The Army provided comments disputing the proposed listing.

FY98 Restoration Progress

A Site Inspection led to the discovery of a former incinerator site. The installation continued groundwater well monitoring at the sanitary landfill, completed and engineered a cap for Cell 2 of the sanitary landfill, and continued operating a pump-and-treat system for removal of fuel oil from the Upper Patapsco aquifer. The installation also

awarded contracts for investigating solid waste management units, two NIKE sites, a drum disposal site, the old industrial corridor at Fort Meade, and an old incinerator site. Fort Meade was placed on the NPL in July 1998.

The Army leased a portion of Tipton Army Airfield to Anne Arundel County, removed miscellaneous ordnance materials located during the UXO removal, and completed a decision document detailing UXO safety precautions. The installation issued a final RI report for four sites and a draft RI for two sites, and entered formal partnerships with EPA Region 3 and state regulators.

Plan of Action

- Conduct a quarterly monitoring program at the post laundry facility in FY99
- Complete Proposed Plan and No Further Action Record of Decision for Tipton Airfield in FY99
- Issue final RI report for two sites at Tipton Airfield in FY99
- Complete ERA work at the clean fill dump in FY99
- Complete RI work at the ordnance demolition area in FY99
- Continue RA at the troop boiler plant in FY99
- Continue the RI/FS at the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office drum site in FY99
- Complete capping and final closure of the active sanitary landfill in FY99
- Begin RI/FSs at the battery shop, the Architect of the Capitol site, and the old incinerator site in FY99

SITES ACHIEVING RIP OR RC PER FISCAL YEAR



